

**Weekly Status & Information Report:  
Week of June 20, 2005**

- 1. MML Annual Convention:** The Maryland Municipal League will be holding its annual convention Sunday, June 25 through Wednesday, June 29 in Ocean City. Mayor Kathy Porter and Councilmembers Terry Seamens and Marc Elrich will attend. Community and Government Liaison Suzanne Ludlow will attend and will be bringing along copies of the Report of the Residents' Committee on Tax and Service Duplication Issues (TASDI) to share with other municipal representatives. Communications Director Lonni Moffet and Information Systems Coordinator Abel Castillo will be participating in panels on municipal telecommunications issues and conducting city business via the internet, respectively. (*Community & Government Liaison*)
- 2. New on the Web Site:** Pay your parking tickets on-line! A link has been provided to the Police Department vendor which permits on-line payment of parking tickets. Also, Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee now has a page and it will be updated as information is provided by committee members. (*City TV*)
- 3. Crosswalk Enforcement (Ward 1):** The COP Team is conducting a pedestrian crosswalk enforcement operation Friday morning in the 7000 block of Carroll Ave. (Ward 1) In one hour, 13 warnings and one citation were issued during 13 stops of motorists. (*Police*)
- 4. Traffic Enforcement:** Through regular traffic enforcement, more than 67 traffic stops have been made, 50 of which resulted in citations. The second wave of the Smooth Operator Campaign was conducted this week. It continues into the weekend, but so far more than 36 citations and warnings have been issued for a variety of violations including excessive speed, running stop signs and running red lights. The program is conducted on overtime, paid for through a MD SHA grant. (*Police*)
- 5. Officers in Training:** Two officers attended a two-day, youth crime prevention issues training conducted by the Maryland Community Crime Prevention Institute. Issues such as gangs, bullying, and sexual child abuse trends were covered. One officer received recertification training for National Crime Information Computer (NCIC), computerized crime information. Capt. Coursey and Ms. Bannerman attended the user-group meeting for a new citizen communication program, Roam Secure Area Network (RSAN). Command Staff met with PSCAC chairs to discuss appropriate collection of information relative to communications and criminal investigations, for comparison with Montgomery County performance of the same tasks (re:TASDI report). (*Police*)
- 6. Crime Report (Wards 2, 3, & 5):** Among arrests in the past week were two for auto theft and two for drug possession. One 15-year-old city youth was arrested in Ward 5 while driving a vehicle stolen from Cheverly and three Adelphi teenagers were arrested in Wards 2 & 3 driving a car taken in Prince George's County. After a resident's complaint of late night disorderly behavior near Spring Park, a female from Potomac and male from Germantown were arrested for marijuana possession (Ward 3). A traffic stop ended with the arrest of a 19-year-old from Silver Spring for cocaine possession, unauthorized use of a vehicle, and an outstanding warrant (Ward 6). (*Police*)

**7. Main Street Neighborhood BusinessWorks Application (Ward 1):** Main Street was recently notified that it would be receiving \$15,000 in Neighborhood Business Works funding from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development for façade improvement reimbursements (up to 50% of business/building owner project costs). The organization's original request included funding for one of the two pedestrian kiosks proposed for the area, a calendar of events, a 4th of July promotional event, and signage for their new office. Unfortunately these items were not funded. The application was endorsed by the Council earlier this spring. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**8. Long Branch (Ward 5):** HCD staff met with the new Economic Development liaison for Long Branch to walk the area and identify potential partnership opportunities. Items considered included maintenance of public areas, specific redevelopment opportunities, support of the newly formed business organization, and code enforcement. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**9. The Montgomery College Neighborhood Advisory Committee (Ward 1):** The Montgomery College Neighborhood Advisory Committee, a statutory committee of the City of Takoma Park, had their first meeting Tuesday, June 14th, in the Provost's Office Conference Room. In attendance were residents from the neighborhood (Takoma Park and Silver Spring) who had been appointed to the Committee, the Provost, the Ward 1 Council member, and College and City staff. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**10. Carroll Avenue Streetscape Project (Ward 1 & 3):** Last week staff met with the Carroll Avenue residents neighborhood association and reviewed the anticipated construction schedule. The sediment and erosion control permit was granted this week. Permits still outstanding include those from the Historic Preservation Commission and the State Highway Administration. The City Contractor has begun removing elements not in the right-of-way and will be ready to start once the permits are granted. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**11. Laurel Avenue Streetscape Project (Ward 1 & 3):** This week the construction company staked out the median and prepared the subgrade for the sidewalk. Last week the tree soils and structural soils which will allow the tree roots to grow under the sidewalk were installed. The construction company will work this Saturday to set up the forms in order to pour the median sidewalk on Monday morning. The area between the commercial buildings and the sidewalk was also filled in with cement so that brick work may continue next week. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**12. Old Town Redevelopment Project (Ward 1):** City staff met with Bruce Levin - new owner of 7001 Carroll Avenue and the commercial buildings fronting Westmoreland - and his representatives to discuss ways in which to engage the neighborhood in a discussion of the possible redevelopment of the site and to advise them of the various permits that will be required. They will be meeting with representatives of various stakeholders in the near future to discuss their options and to learn more about neighborhood concerns regarding the property. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**13. Community Development Summit and CDBG Public Hearing - Wednesday, June 29:** Hosted by the Citizen's Advisory Committee, this is an opportunity to participate in a discussion of the community development needs of Takoma Park at large and of its low and moderate income residents. The information gathered during this discussion will be used to identify specific community needs, solicit proposals from eligible organizations, and evaluate requests for funding. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, June 29 at the Municipal Building from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**14. Affordable Housing Program:** Staff attended a symposium this week sponsored by Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs, AARP Maryland, and the Federal Trade Commission on "Identifying and Preventing Consumer Scams in the Hispanic Community" The goal of the training was to educate staff from local governments agencies and community organizations, who provide direct services to the Hispanic community, about consumer protection issues and fraud schemes. Information obtained from this training will be disseminated to residents the Tenant Capacity Building Program and the Newsletter. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**15. Summer Programs:** The Recreation Department completed its first week of summer programming with the Tremendous Trips series. This trip week achieved maximum enrollment of 50 kids every day. Trips included the Port Discovery Museum, riding the Walkersville Southern Railroad, Baltimore Zoo, swimming at MLK pool, bowling at White Oak, roller skating in Laurel, and seeing a play (Kivulu) at Discovery Theater. This week was designed to fill the gap between the end of the school year and the Summer Camp programs. *(Recreation)*

**16. Summer Camps:** Summer Camps start up Monday, June 7, at the Piney Branch Elementary school. Summer Staff training was held this week covering policies & procedures, and program planning. Staff attended a CPR and First aid course and all passed and are now certified. The camp runs through August 12, and still has openings for all weeks. *(Recreation)*

**17. New Kids in Recreation:** On Saturday, June 18, the Outreach division took 13 kids from ward 5 to the D.C. United soccer game. All of participants were kids that have never signed up for a recreation program before, and were recruited by the Outreach staff. *(Recreation)*

**18. Teen Trip:** On Thursday June 23, the Recreation Department sponsored a trip for teens to Ocean City, Maryland. Ocean City has been hosting a month long teen program which included workshops on drugs, college, and teen sex. They also offered games like beach volleyball and miniature golf and of course beach fun. Fifteen teens from Takoma Park were escorted by four outreach staff members. *(Recreation)*

**19. Musical Programs:** Francesca Jandasek completed the first week of Create Your Own Musical/Play week. Nine kids in grades 5-8 enrolled for the week, where they scripted, designed and acted their own plays. Two separate performances were produced by the group and held in the Council Chambers. There will be another session offered the week of July 25-29. *(Recreation)*

20. **7133 Carroll Avenue Renovation (Ward 1):** The City and C & P Renovation finalized the renovation contract for the future Hevia house at 7133 Carroll Avenue. Work is expected to start in July. *(Public Works)*

21. **Street Restoration (Wards 1 & 6):** Concrete work has been completed on Erskine and 13th Avenue (Ward 6) and the contractor has begun concrete work on Takoma Avenue (Ward 1) beginning at the City line north of Philadelphia Avenue. The concrete replacement on Takoma Avenue will continue for several weeks. *(Public Works)*